

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9 to 11, and 22 to 25 are in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 4 to 8 and 12 to 21 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 22 to 25 have been newly added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The rejection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the amendments made herein.

Claims 1, 4 to 6, 9, 10, 12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0115722 (Kronick). Claims 1 and 6 to 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kronick in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0106355 (Roesl). Claims 1 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kronick. Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kronick in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0147330 (Yamamoto). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, (i) a probe carrier for simultaneous quantification of two or more genes in a solution, and (ii) the number of spots for the genes differs depending on the genes.

By virtue of the foregoing, it is possible to make a probe-forming process more stable, and thereby control the number of probe molecules formed on a carrier. In addition, it is possible to perform simultaneous quantification of plural kinds of target substances with high precision.

None of Kronick, Roesl, and Yamamoto, even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that such could be combined, is seen to disclose or

suggest at least the above-discussed features. In addition, none of the cited documents is seen to disclose or suggest the attendant benefits provided by such features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Damond E. Vadnais/
Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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